

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
KIKUCHI )  
Application Number: To be Assigned )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: SEARCH METHOD AND SEARCH BROKER )  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. ASAM.0112 )

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY  
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119  
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

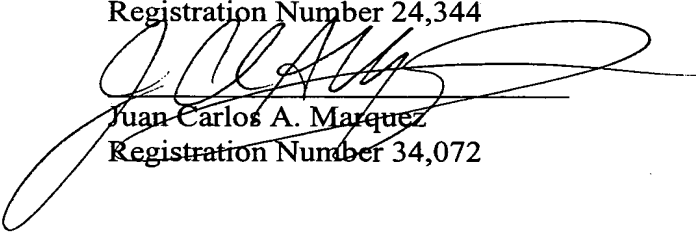
Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of September 2, 2003, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2003-310479.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2003-310479 will be submitted when received from Applicants. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stanley P. Fisher  
Registration Number 24,344

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Juan Carlos A. Marquez  
Registration Number 34,072

**REED SMITH LLP**  
3110 Fairview Park Drive  
Suite 1400  
Falls Church, Virginia 22042  
(703) 641-4200  
**February 24, 2004**